

17 August 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDI

SUBJECT : Checklist of NSC Account

No real flaps while you were away but more than enough to keep me plenty busy:

1. DCI briefed the Draperites on world situation and dined with them Monday 10 August. I attended. Nothing of note. *at their request* *They buttoning up final report.*
2. Nothing at all on new limited war study and I didn't stir anything up.
3. Basic Policy was finally buttoned up only two weeks ago. Worth your while to read final versions of paragraphs 12a and 16 on key lim war issue. State got through some valuable language changes but sting of Dees largely removed by footnote indicating they merely clarify policy not change it. I have tried out new technique of circulating to top echelon here a summary of key changes with implications for CIA. This seemed to me useful (indeed, would it be worthwhile to circulate such a memo on each major policy revision?).
4. South Asia. By dint of much work we managed to produce a fairly acceptable draft from the sow's ear which SOA originally presented. It went up last week but action not completed since President got off on NATO matters (notes attached). Key issues are how much should we give India—sense of NSC seemed to be that major effort called for here, what to do about Afghanistan, and how to handle size of Pak army. Mueller brought up old issue of subsidizing socialism via aid to public sector, but got pretty well slapped down by President and Bunker, who present.
5. Most of my time taken up with France and Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, which before NSC tomorrow. French exercise notable for absence any clear cut idea on anybody's part as to how to deal with de Gaulle. JCS favored backing him on Algeria, apparently to get the 10 divisions back. But no one enthusiastic about this. See my briefing note.
6. Annual Report on Technical Surveillance was reviewed without any notable comment. Countermeasures effort proceeding pretty well.

7. SD-MICC and National Disclosure Policy under review as result of report by Pat Coyne. Our people seriously concerned about protecting our interests. I put in blanket demur^{er} (see attached) but we may have more business here.

8. Review of Far East Policy now in full swing. Fascinating policy split between JCS, who want to turn clock back to 1949 and overthrow Communist China with pinpricks, and State view that more of the same is what we need. Haydn Williams much upset that policy alternatives utterly ignore possibility of adjustment to realities of life in effort to achieve modus vivendi protecting essentials of our Far East ~~Policy~~ ^{Position}. I too feel it ridiculous that a paper which pretends to present broad Far East policy alternatives does not even mention this one, if only to knock it down. Williams may raise this, but per your instructions I have so far played it cool. However, I have been forced to react strongly against the JCS contention that the Peiping regime is so riddled with weakness as to be pushed over by a gnat.

9. Note attached NSC notes on striking Presidential peroration (during SOA discussion) on fact Europeans weren't pulling their weight in NATO and perhaps we should bring some troops home. GG made much of this since it ties in with his own oft repeated fears.

STAT


R. W. KOMER